


I MINA'TRENTAI SINGKO NA LIHESLATURAN GUÅHAN
RESOLUTIONS

Resolution No.	Sponsor	Title	Date Intro	Date of Presentation	Date Adopted	Date Referred	Referred to	PUBLIC HEARING DATE	DATE COMMITTEE REPORT FILED	NOTES
312-35 (COR)	Kelly Marsh (Taitano), PhD	Relative to recognizing the significance of "Guam History and CHamoru Heritage Day," held on March 2, 2020; and to invite our island community to celebrate and further perpetuate Guåhan's unique and resounding history and culture of the Indigenous CHamoru people, whose enduring spirit has persevered despite centuries of colonialism.	2/28/20 3:23 p.m.	TBA						

I MINA'TRENTAI SINGKO NA LIHESLATURAN GUAHAN
2020 (SECOND) Regular Session

Resolution No. 32-35 (COR)

Introduced by:

Kelly Marsh (Taitano), PhD 

Relative to recognizing the significance of "Guam History and CHamoru Heritage Day," held on March 2, 2020; and to invite our island community to celebrate and further perpetuate Guåhan's unique and resounding history and culture of the Indigenous CHamoru people, whose enduring spirit has persevered despite centuries of colonialism.

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COMMITTEE ON RULES OF *I MINA'TRENTAI SINGKO NA LIHESLATURAN GUÅHAN*:

1 **WHEREAS**, *I Maga'låhen Guåhan* through Executive Order No. 2014-05,
2 enacted Public Law 32-145 on April 28, 2014, officially establishing "Guam
3 History and CHamoru Heritage Day," to be observed on the first Monday of March
4 every year; and to replace what was formerly known as "Discovery Day" in order to
5 embrace CHamoru history, promote the proliferation of CHamoru culture, support
6 the CHamoru people's inalienable right to self-determination and help the island
7 move closer to the dream of decolonization and genuine self-government.

8 **WHEREAS**, celebrations of CHamoru culture remind our community about
9 the importance of honoring our *i manaotao mo'na, i fino'-ñiha yan i kostumbren-*
10 *ñiha*, their language and traditions, and the special connection the CHamoru people
11 share with their sacred lands, *ya i hale'-ñiha guini gi este mismo tano'-ñiha*.

12 Moreover, these experiences remind us about the true importance of remembering
13 the CHamoru cultural values that have reverberated across ancient times and into
14 the present day: *respetu yan inafa'maolek*, or respect and interdependence;

2020 FEB 28 PM 3:23 

1 **WHEREAS**, the observance of "Guam History and CHamoru Heritage
2 Day" is a legal holiday of the island of Guam held in conjunction with the annual
3 celebration of *Mes CHamoru*, or CHamoru Month, during the month of March.
4 Both celebrations provide for the community of Guam opportunities to partake in
5 cultural performances, heritage tours, art exhibitions, cooking, storytelling and
6 many more opportunities to learn and therefore promote aspects of the CHamoru
7 culture, regardless of one's cultural background.

8 **WHEREAS**, the village of Humåtak (Umatac) has been hosting the annual
9 Guam History and CHamoru Heritage Day event every first Monday of March,
10 which brings community awareness of the historical value and rich culture
11 practices of the CHamoru people, through the hospitality and warmth of the
12 Humåtak community.

13 **WHEREAS**, a year from today, the eyes of the world will turn to Guam, as
14 the 500th anniversary of the world's first circumnavigation is commemorated.
15 Ferdinand Magellan led a European expedition to sail around the globe. On March
16 6, 1521, Chamorus found him and his crew lost, sick, and starving in their
17 ancestral waters and gave them life-saving food and water without which, they
18 may not have survived to complete the world's first circumnavigation.

19 **WHEREAS**, this was the first documented contact between Europeans and
20 Pacific Islanders. This Guam History and CHamoru Heritage Day holds extra
21 import in helping the island prepare for this 500th anniversary, and ensure that
22 over the course of the next year the CHamoru voice is heard in all retellings of
23 Guam's history, but especially this important first contact which was a strong force
24 in forever changing the way the world connects with each other.

25 **WHEREAS**, each year the organizers for the Guam History and CHamoru
26 Heritage Day commemorative activities take on the important responsibility of
27 reminding the community of the tragic and violent interactions during the first

1 contact between Pacific Islanders and Europeans in Guam. The annual reenactment
2 of the arrival of the Magellan and his killing of CHamorus and the burning of their
3 homes represents a raw and very real reminder about this island's history, and why
4 we must encourage future generations to continue to speak the truth about the
5 impacts of colonization and while still carrying forward the resilient story of the
6 CHamoru people.

7 **WHEREAS**, this was the first documented contact between Europeans and
8 Pacific Islanders. This Guam History and CHamoru Heritage Day holds extra
9 import in helping the island prepare for this 500th anniversary, and ensure that
10 over the course of the next year the CHamoru voice is heard in all retellings of
11 Guam's history, but especially this important first contact which was a strong force
12 in forever changing the way the world connects with each other.

13 **WHEREAS**, with each "Guam History and CHamoru Heritage Day" the
14 community is reminded about the importance of realizing the values expressed
15 through our island's pledge the *Inifresi*. The *Inifresi* asks each island resident to
16 strive to defend the body, heart and soul of the island, by protecting the six
17 elements that make life here possible and prosperous, *i hinengge, i kottura, i*
18 *lengguåhi, i aire, i hanom yan i tano'*. This pledge, drawn from the rooted wisdom
19 and heritage of the CHamoru people to this island, is something that can unite all
20 peoples who love Guam, towards a sustainable and prosperous future.

21 **WHEREAS**, the observance of "Guam History and CHamoru Heritage
22 Day" reminds each of us who call Guam home of our responsibility as stewards of
23 the land and resources we have inherited from those who came before us, and to
24 commemorate this obligation by celebrating their significant contributions; now
25 therefore, be it

26 **RESOLVED**, that the Committee on Rules o f *I Mina'trentai Singko*
27 *LiheSlaturan Guåhan* does hereby, on behalf of *I LiheSlaturan Guåhan* and the

1 people of Guam, recognize the observance of "Guam History and CHamoru
2 Heritage Day" on March 2, 2020; and does further encourage the understanding
3 and the celebration of Guam's deep-rooted history, and the enduring culture of a
4 people that have contributed to Guam's development across social, economic,
5 political and religious lines; and be it further

6 **RESOLVED**, that the Speaker and the Chairperson of the Committee on
7 Rules certify, and the Legislative Secretary attest to, the adoption hereof: and that
8 copies of the same be thereafter transmitted to the 2020 Mes CHamoru Planning
9 Committee; to the Honorable Melissa Savares, Mayor of Dededo and President of
10 the Mayors Council of Guam; to the Honorable Johnny A. Quinata, Mayor of
11 Umatac Village; to the Honorable Michael F. Q. San Nicolas, Guam Delegate to
12 the U.S. House of Representatives; and to the Honorable Lourdes Leon Guerrero, *I*
13 *Maga'hågen Guåhan*.

14
15 **DULY AND REGULARLY ADOPTED BY THE COMMITTEE ON**
16 **RULES OF *I MINA'TRENTAI SINGKO NA LIHESLATURAN GUÅHAN* ON**
17 **THE 2nd DAY OF MARCH 2020.**

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20 **TINA ROSE MUÑA-BARNES**
21 **Speaker**
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24 **REGINE BISCOE LEE**
25 **Chairperson, Committee on Rules**

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28 **AMANDA L. SHELTON**
29 **Legislative Secretary**